

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Koji Uchida

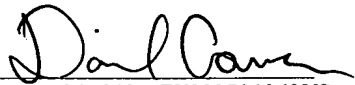
Serial No.:

Conf. No.:

Filed: January 29, 2004

For: STORAGE CONTROL APPARATUS  
AND CONTROL METHOD  
THEREOF

*I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as EXPRESS MAIL in an envelope addressed to: MS Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.*

Jan. 29, 2004  
Date  
Express Mail No. EV032731369USINFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) within either of the following time periods, whichever occurs last:

- (a) within three months of either the filing date of the national application or the date of entry into the national stage; or
- (b) before the mailing date of first office action on the merits (i.e., not including actions such as restriction requirements).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.


It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS &amp; CRAIN, LTD.

300 South Wacker Drive – Suite 2500  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
Telephone: (312) 360-0080  
Facsimile: (312) 360-9315  
Customer Number 24978

By:   
Patrick G. Burns  
Registration No. 29,367

Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce  
(Rev. 8-88) Patent and Trademark Office

Attorney Docket No.: 3408.69382

Serial No.:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant: Koji Uchida

Filing Date: 1-29-04

Group:

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initial* | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Subclass | Filing Date If Appropriate |
|-------------------|-----------------|------|------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
|                   |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |
|                   |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |
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|                   |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |
|                   |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|  | Document Number | Date          | Country | Class | Subclass | Translation |    |
|--|-----------------|---------------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
|  |                 |               |         |       |          | Yes         | No |
|  | 61-136123       | Jun. 24, 1986 | Japan   |       |          | Abs.        |    |
|  | 6-004451        | Jan. 14, 1994 | Japan   |       |          | Abs.        |    |
|  | 2002-514813*    | May 21, 2002  | Japan   |       |          |             | X  |
|  | WO99/59064      | Nov. 18, 1999 | WIPO    |       |          | X           |    |
|  |                 |               |         |       |          |             |    |
|  |                 |               |         |       |          |             |    |

#### OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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Examiner

Date Considered

\*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

\*Corresponds to WO99/59064